

NORTHERN BEACHES
COUNCIL

NOTES

IMPLEMENTATION ADVISORY GROUP MEETING

held in the Councillors Room, Manly Town Hall on

WEDNESDAY 1 MARCH 2017

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**Notes of the Implementation Advisory Group Meeting
held on Wednesday 1 March 2017
in the Councillors Room, Manly Town Hall
Commencing at 4:10pm**

ATTENDANCE:

Dick Persson, AM Administrator

Members

Jean Hay, AM	(Chairperson)
Michel Regan	(Deputy Chairperson)
Kylie Ferguson	(Deputy Chairperson)
Alex McTaggart	
Jose Menano-Pires	
Cathy Griffin	

Council Officers

Dick Persson, AM	Administrator
Mark Ferguson	General Manager
Beth Lawsen	Deputy General Manager Public Affairs
Helen Lever	Acting Deputy General Manager Corporate Services
Ben Taylor	Deputy General Manager Environment & Infrastructure
Kate Lewis	Executive Manager Community Engagement
Trish O'Grady	Executive Assistant and Protocol Officer (Notes)

1.0 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

1.1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY – JEAN HAY, AM

Jean Hay, AM gave an acknowledgement of Country.

1.2 APOLOGIES – JEAN HAY, AM

DECISION

That apologies from Alex McTaggart and Katie Kirwan be noted.

2.0 CONFIRMATION OF NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS & REVIEW OF ACTION LOG

2.1 NOTES OF IMPLEMENTATION ADVISORY GROUP HELD 1 FEBRUARY 2017

DECISION

M Regan / J Menano-Pires

That the Notes of the Implementation Advisory Group held 1 February 2017, copies of which were previously circulated to all Members, are hereby confirmed as a true and correct record of the proceedings of that meeting.

3.1 REVIEW AND UPDATE OF PREVIOUS ACTIONS AND BUSINESS ARISING – MARK FERGUSON

DISCUSSION

Mark Ferguson, General Manager provided the following update:

- Action:** Discuss opportunities for input from the LRC to the Capex plan with the Executive Manager, Corporate Strategy & Planning
- Update:** Given the tight timeframes to put the draft Operational Plan (and Budget), this will be challenging.
- Action:** M Ferguson to investigate previous discussions around the potential use of Manly Andrew Boy Charlton by water polo groups
- Update:** Mark Ferguson reported that the cost would be approximately \$4million for the provision of a water polo pool at the Andrew Boy Charlton Aquatic Centre.

Jean Hay, AM explained that representatives from Australian Water Polo had met with the former Manly Council and said they would get funding to pay half the cost. Beth Lawsen, Deputy General Manager Public Affairs also met with these representatives on numerous occasions when they said they would contribute 50 percent. M Ferguson believes water polo may be better situated at the new aquatic centre at the Hospital Precinct and it was agreed that it is not a good time to revisit a

water polo facility at this point in time.

J Hay agreed and pointed out that it is not a good time to spend money due to misleading information in the media about cost of the Andrew Boy Charlton Aquatic Centre and pointed out that the \$27 million referred to includes the work on LM Graham Reserve as well as the cogeneration plant.

Discussion was held regarding fencing and dogs at LM Graham Reserve. B Lawsen has provided the history to Steve Lawler, Executive Manager Parks & Reserves.

C Griffin enquired regarding the operation of the cogenerational plant and Ben Taylor, Deputy General Manager Environment & Infrastructure advised that the plant has been operational since November last year.

B Taylor advised that S Lawler has been speaking with resident groups who are advocating to demolish the current amenities block. B Taylor advised this is still under investigation.

Discussed differing requirements of dog walkers and sporting groups and J Hay pointed out that LM Graham Reserve was established originally as a sporting ground, and not a dog park.

4.0 COUNCIL UPDATES

4.1 ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE - DICK PERSSON, AM

DISCUSSION

Dick Persson, AM, Administrator, provided members with the following updates:

The Administrator informed the meeting that contrary to a Manly Daily article regarding Frenchs Forest, Council has not back peddled but made it clear they prefer not to have the swimming pool removed, if at all possible.

The Administrator pointed out that Minister Stokes would like an alternative site investigated but he has pointed out to the Minister that there are no suitable sites therefore the school will need to be located on the current swimming pool site or carpark.

The Administrator pointed out that he believes the onus should be put on the Department of Education for an appropriate location and is confident that Minister Stokes will support the school being relocated on the carpark site if that is possible and retain the WAC.

There has been debate regarding the commercial feasibility of the Hospital Precinct Structure Plan (Frenchs Forest) plan on display.

There was discussion regarding media relating to a tunnel under the Spit Bridge and the Administrator pointed out that although he would not like to appear negative about a tunnel, he would does not want money diverted away from current traffic management initiatives on the Northern Beaches.

Jose Menano-Pires enquired if the Administrator was are aware of ring road option accepted by RMS which is a flybridge across new Warringah Road and Wakehurst Parkway. He noted that there has been some lobbying and meeting with politicians and thinks the study should be looked at.

Planning for a New Elected Council

The Administrator and General Manager have had discussions regarding the elected Council and believe it would be advantageous for the current IAG members to take time thinking issues through and working with the Administrator and General Manager on planning how the new Council could

be structured.

For example:

- Council Meeting facilities?
- Opinion on Standing Committees - committee framework?
- Re-fashion Precincts to Ward Committees at Council with Councillors and staff?

Administrator said he does not intend on getting into discussion of what role but would like IAG to take this on as a project and take ownership with facilitator provided by Council. C Griffin would support the option of two initial sessions were facilitated by staff. Kate Lewis, Executive Manager Community Engagement suggested a workshop be organised to get ideas.

M Regan noted that he is not in favour of the proposal as he believes the newly elected Council should organise the new structure. He appreciates that the IAG could do some forward planning but Council needs to trust the former structures and give the new Council the opportunity to determine this.

J Menano-Pires stated he believes there are more important issues such as accommodation for the new Council. The Administrator pointed out that he believes people will respect the IAG opinion and they should work on some of these issues for the new Council.

4.2 GENERAL MANAGER'S UPDATE - MARK FERGUSON

DISCUSSION

General Manager, Mark Ferguson provided an update on/discussed the following matters:

- As a follow up to the Budget workshop held on 15 February Mark requested members to come back by Friday week with thoughts/priorities to be considered before Council meeting in April.
- M Ferguson stressed to members the workload involved for staff to bring 3 budgets together that will deliver services to our rate payers.
- Structure – consultation has been held with level three managers regarding a permanent structure. This structure will go to all staff in approximately two weeks with some changes including four divisions becoming three. There will be a reduction in Manager positions.
- Level three and four positions will be 90 percent recruited internally.
- Public Affairs will be absorbed into the General Manager's and Corporate Services divisions.
- Beth Lawsen will be starting Long Service Leave shortly.
- Both Acting DGM positions will be advertised externally from 16 March with a final decision by the end of April. The three Deputy General Manager positions will be as follows:
 - Custome and Corporate
 - Planning, Place and Community
 - Environment and Infrastructure

M Regan asked for an explanation on the Executive Managers process and M Ferguson provided an explanation of the selection process.

M Ferguson pointed out that a restructure generates energy. He also commented on the added

pressure places on staff with the difficulties how staff are coping with the 3 different systems not being integrated and pressure this puts on staff and acknowledged it is a difficult time.

Members also discussed the following points:

- Insurance levy
- Capex projects: M Regan and J Menano-Pires noted that they do not believe that Council have the resources for all the projects funded and believes there is an opportunity to have Project Manager employed to act on Council's behalf. B Taylor explained the structure of the Major Projects Team and advised there is \$120 million available for capital projects.

NOTE: Cathy Griffin left the meeting at 5.25pm.

B Lawsen distributed a confidential Briefing Note on the Glen Street Theatre and Andrew 'Boy' Charlton Aquatic Centre.

5.0 LRC AGENDA

5.1 DRAFT LRC AGENDA FOR 15 MARCH 2017 MEETING - BETH LAWSEN

DISCUSSION

Kate Lewis, Executive Manager Community Engagement advised that there will be an Identity Workshop at the next LRC meeting to be held on 15 March 2017.

Members acknowledged B Lawsen and her contributions to both former Manly Council and Northern Beaches Councils over the years.

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 5 April 2017.

The meeting concluded at 5:41PM

This is the final page of the Notes comprising 6 pages
numbered 1 to 6 of the Implementation Advisory Group
meeting held on Wednesday 1 March 2017 and confirmed on Wednesday 5 April 2017